Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 144559
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TO AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 144559

FOR SIMONS FROM ANDREWS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OGEN, RO

SUBJECT: OFFICIAL/INFORMAL

1. PROPERTY CASES - DECREE 223. IN PREPARING A DIPLOMATIC NOTE CONCERNING COMPENSATION FOR PROPERTY OF US NATIONALS CONFISCATED UNDER DECREE 223, WE HAVE SEARCHED OUR FILES FOR RECORDS OF ASSURANCES MADE BY GOR THAT PROMPT, ADEQUATE AND EFFECTIVE COMPENSATION WILL BE PAID, NOTWITHSTANDING THE DECREE 223 LIMITS. THE STRONGEST ASSURANCES THAT WE HAVE BEEN ABLE TO FIND HAVE BEEN DPM PATAN'S CONVERSATION WITH AMBASSADOR BARNES ON OCTOBER 25, 1977 (BUCHAREST 7928) AND HIS MEETING WITH DEPUTY SECRETARY CHRISTOPHER ON NOV. 1, 1977 (STATE 263679). DESPITE OUR FREQUENT REFERENCES TO PATAN'S EARLIER ASSURANCES, OUR REVIEW OF THE 1975-1976 FILES HAS NOT PRODUCED ANY CLEAR-CUT STATEMENT WHICH WE CAN USE. (THERE IS SOME DOUBT WHETHER WE SHOULD REFER TO LANG-UAGE IN THE DRAFT EXCHANGE OF LETTERS BETWEEN PATAN AND
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BARNES, SINCE IT WAS NEVER FINALIZED.) WE WOULD APPRECIATE A QUICK SEARCH OF YOUR FILES FOR ANY RECORD OF STRONGER ASSURANCES. WE WOULD LIKE TO DELIVER THIS NOTE IN BUCH-AREST, WITH A COPY TO NICOLAE HERE, BEFORE THE JUNE 15 HOUSE HEARINGS.

2. LEGAL ASSISTANCE ON DECREE 223 (BUCHAREST 3526). WE HAVE

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BEEN WORKING WITH L TO GET SOMEONE TO BUCHAREST TO HELP ON THE PROPERTY CASES BUT DON'T YET HAVE A DEFINITE COMMITMENT. PHIL SHAMWELL OF L/M WILL PROBABLY BE IN SOFIA JUNE 28-JULY 4 AND WE HAVE ENCOURAGED HIM TO STOP IN BUCHAREST AFTER THAT TO DISCUSS BOTH DUAL NATIONAL QUESTIONS AND DECREE 223. (KWIATEK, BY THE WAY, HAS BEEN ON MEDICAL LEAVE FOR ABOUT A MONTH AND WE DON'T KNOW WHEN HE'LL RETURN.) AS SOON AS PLANS ARE FIRM WE'LL LET YOU KNOW. VANCE

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